

4. Whenever there is spurt of crime in a particular area, the attention of the State Government concerned is drawn for better protection to railway passengers and necessary assistance is rendered whenever required...."

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Chandigarh-Ludhiana Rail Link

*1267. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the project to link Chandigarh with Ludhiana by a direct Railway line has been surveyed and sanctioned;

(b) if so, the findings of the survey as also the estimated cost of the Project; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF):
(a) to (c): A final location (engineering) survey for the construction of Jagadhri-Chandigarh-Ludhiana rail link was carried out during 1971-73, which revealed that Chandigarh-Ludhiana portion (BG, 95 kms) would cost Rs 19.76 crores (at 1971-72 price level) and was not financially viable. In view of the limited finan-

cial resources which are not adequate even to progress the schemes already in hand, it has not been possible to undertake the construction of this rail link so far. However, the entire matter regarding policy for construction of new railway lines has been entrusted to a National Transport Policy Committee and their report has just been received by the Planning Commission. The proposed rail link would be given due consideration in the light of the accepted recommendations of this Committee.

Wagons for Essential Commodities for Tripura

*169. SHRI AJOY BISWAS:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that essential commodities are not reaching Tripura due to shortage of wagons;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) the number of wagons which carried essential commodities to Tripura during the last five months (month-wise)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF)
(a): No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) :

Commodity	Jan '80	Feb. '80	March '80	April '80	May '80	Tot. I
Foodgrains	425	592	441	549	929	2936
Salt	34	127	117	51	36	365
Sugar	13	35	45	58	38	189
Cement	49	46	82	264	75	516
Pulses	10	23	27	3	4	67
Edible Oil	9	9	20	8	27	73
Steel	12	33	41	31	32	149
' Total	552	865	773	964	1141	4295